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Correspondence from persons desiring to publish their experience is solicited.

Letters should be signed with the writer's real name, in full, which will be printed or not, as the writer may wish.

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AGRICULTURAL.

GRAVES proper in the hen yard, if trained high.

FOUR pounds of clover will make one pound of rich vegetable mold.

Sow plenty of clover with the grass seed. Under right conditions it will endure many seasons.

WHEN the chain pump catches and bothers, the chain is probably too loose. Take out a link or two.

To mend a lead pipe without turning off the water, pack it with salt and rice. After a section has frozen a new piece can be soldered to the broken ends.

EVERGREENS can be successfully transplanted in summer. Get all the fine roots possible and after setting, settle the earth with several pails of water.

CREAM nearly spoiled by the odor of cabbage need not be thrown away by heating to a temperature of 155° for about ten minutes. The heat seems to drive off the cabbage smell.

YOUNG canker worms are very thick in some orchards this year. One pound of Paris green to two hundred gallons of water will settle them, although it is too late now to prevent a good deal of injury being done.

EARLY grafting is best, but if some of the early grafts failed to take, the stub can be sawed again and re-grafted now, provided you have scions which were cut early. But don't give up the graft too soon, they often start very slowly.

TO find the number of trees or plants to the acre, multiply the distance in feet between the rows by the distance trees are apart in rows; the product will be the number of square feet for each tree, which, divided into the number of square feet in an acre (43,600), will give the number of trees to the acre.

Box Experiments With Phosphates.

The Maine Station has just issued Bulletin No. 34, which briefly summarizes the results of these experiments and deduces some practical conclusions. The investigation is still in progress and further reports will be made from time to time. The chief points brought out in the present Bulletin are:

Plants differ in their ability to feed upon crude phosphates.

Turpines and ruta bagas gave nearly as good returns with the Florida rock as with the dissolved rock.

In nearly every other case the best results were obtained by the use of the dissolved rock.

Barley and corn appear to require an acid phosphate.

Except with the barley, corn, turnip roots and potato tubers, the crude Florida rock yielded better returns than the phosphate of iron and alumina.

When early maturity is desired, the acid phosphate can profitably be used.

The solubility of a phosphate in ammonium citrate is not always the correct measure of its actual value to the plant.

Milk, Clover, Ensilage.
THE CORNERSTONES OF THIS 300-ACRE FARM.

The farm of C. S. Stillman in South Natick contains 300 acres, only a small proportion of which is used for tillage.

Milk is the money crop on this farm. There are nineteen cows; grades with traces of Holstein blood. Last year, according to the superintendent, Geo. C. Bragdon, milk to the amount of \$1400 was sold from these nineteen cows and a liberal amount also of milk and cream was used by the family. The price obtained was 25 cents per 8 1-2 quart can, they having been carted by the purchaser and sold direct to milkmen. The saving in freight and in contractors' profits enabled the buyer to pay a little more than could have been obtained net from the contractors.

FEEDING FOR MILK.

The excellent production of milk is obtained by corn ensilage, clover hay and grain.

The silo is a building by itself, quite a distance from the barn. It is 18 feet square and 23 feet deep, built of wood with two layers of paper between, affording no especial novelty in structure. The cattle get a rather liberal feed; 38 to 40 pounds per day, farm ensilage, also plenty of clover hay and a large ration of corn and cob meal, cottonseed meal and shorts.

The corn and cob meal is a home product made from a field of northern corn grown upon the farm. This year, however, owing to the low price of grain, Mr. Stillman will give up trying to raise his own corn meal and will put the corn crop into the silo, ears and all, thus saving the cost of husking, grinding, etc. As upon most large farms nowadays, the corn is cultivated in great part upon the rain supply. The more deficient the fall, the more severe will be the shortage in grass.

Now is the time to look out for crops to piece out the pastures; and what a change has come over the spirit of our dreams in this respect within the last few years. It is not so long ago but that most of us remember that most men laughed at the thought of feeding their cows in the summer or fall. Once they had turned their herds out to grass, they expected them to take care of themselves until it was time to put them in for winter. The result was that early in the season the milk supply was cut off, for once the cow dried up there was no way of bringing her up again. All this is changing. Not all men have adopted the plan of putting in some crop for summer use, but most men who have done so will be the best interests at heart have.

Probably corn stands at the head as a sowing crop. It is richer in butter making elements than any similar plant.

Then, every dairyman should have a piece of corn. As it is a very exhausting crop, the land upon which it is to be grown should be well manured.

We used to sow corn intended for the purpose indicated broadcast; now it seems settled that it is better to plant it in rows three feet apart, so that it may be cultivated. Thus planted, numerous ears will grow upon the stalks and far more goodness be secured. Begin feeding this early. For some years I have commenced cutting corn for green feed in August.

Even earlier than corn, a spot devoted to oats or oats and peas will yield a bountiful supply of green fodder.

The effect of this generous feeding may be seen very speedily in the milk pail and the churn.

Who says all this does not involve labor? I do not deny it; but shall we expect to receive something for nothing?

The time has gone by, if ever was, when we could trust old mother nature to do her part and ours too in the production of great crops and fabulous returns for a small outlay of labor.

If we get anything out of the meal-tub we must put something in. Just now is the time to prepare for the time of need which will surely come later in the year. He who admits that and acts upon it.

E. I. VINCENT.
Broome Co., N. Y.

I do not believe that the value of the manure produced by cows fed liberally will be overestimated by placing it at five cents a day, and I would recommend that the cows be credited for this amount.—Prof. W. A. Henry.



COTSWOLD EWES.

Plenty of Green Food.

Just as surely as the days roll round, there will come a time this season when the pastures will begin to fail and the rich juice of spring and early summer pass away. Then the flow of milk will be shortened and the dairyman's source of revenue will be greatly curtailed, unless he make some provision to supplement the grass of his pastures.

The extent of this failure which takes place in the pasture will, of course, depend in great part upon the rain supply. The more deficient the fall, the more severe will be the shortage in grass.

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Millets, Vegetables and Fertilizer.

ED. MASS. PLOUGHMAN: DEAR SIR:—I am no farmer, but am thinking of becoming one, and would like to ask you a few questions. How many tons of millet can be raised on an acre of land, that is, in a condition to cut three-fourths of a ton of hay to the acre, of either the Japanese or American variety, and when should it be sown, and will stock eat it made into hay, and how much fertilizer should be put on to the acre, of Bradley's or Bowker's, and if they would be as good as barnyard manure?

Also, if fertilizers would do to put on to land to raise squash, and how much per acre, and if it works well to put on to grass land?

F. O. MORSE,
East Boston, Mass., April 25, 1897.

[Japanese barnyard millet produced at the Amherst station, upon half an acre, at the rate of nearly four tons of hay per acre, while Hungarian millet produced at the rate of about two and three-fifths tons per acre. This was upon heavy loam well enriched with chemical fertilizers. Your soil is probably not in condition to do well, even with high manuring. Sow three pecks to the acre of Hungarian, half that quantity of Japanese barnyard millet. About the first of June is the best time to sow. Yes; cattle are fond of millet hay, but it is considered not very good for horses. Use 800 pounds of fertilizer. The fertilizer would produce more than the same value expended in manure at market prices, with cost of hauling added. That is, unless your farm is near a large city. Before buying fertilizer, be sure that your stock is fed liberally so as to produce as much rich manure as possible.

Good crops of squashes have been grown upon fertilizers alone. For large results, use a heavy dressing, working it well into the hill. Apply 1500 to 2000 pounds for the best results.

For seeding down grassland it is considered better to use what manure you have, and to other other crops for fertilizer.

For top dressing it will pay to use fertilizer on pieces in good heart, not too long seeded and which are naturally adapted for grass.—ED.]

WING.—Any salt that is clean, dry,

free from impurities, fine and even in grain and that has a soft, velvety feel is a good butter or cheese salt. Cheese salt may be somewhat coarser in grain than butter. We use from three-fourths to one ounce of salt per pound of butter for home trade, and one-half ounce for export.

WING.—Any salt of medium uniform

grain that quickly and completely dissolves to a clear solution, and use such a salt as the consumer may desire.

GODRICH.—One ounce of salt to a

pound of butter is about the proper

proportion.

ALVORD.—The quantity, 16 to 1.

GURIER.—Use three-fourths ounce to one ounce of salt to one pound of butter, to suit the customers.

GOULD.—One-half ounce of dissolved

salt to the pound is sufficient for butter.

MINEUR.—Quantity depends on the customer; we use about one ounce to a pound of butter.

MATHEWS.—When I made butter, one

ounce of salt to the pound.

ADAMS.—The standard brands are all

good. The average is one-half ounce to the pound.

BOARDMAN.—Use three-fourths to one

ounce of salt for each pound of butter.

BRANDT.—About 1 1-4 ounces to one

ounce of butter.

MORGAN.—One ounce to a pound of butter is the general practice.

NISLEY.—About one ounce to a pound of butter.

JONES.—One ounce to a pound of butter is the best proportion, generally.

EYTH.—Any pure salt—medium fine

grain for butter, and coarse for cheese.

From three-fourths to one ounce to a

ounce of butter.

Problems in Potato Growing.

From the little garden patch to the broad-acres farm every occupant of a piece of land grows potatoes. Hence the culture of the potato involves some of the most important problems connected with farming. Modern practice has established facts of great importance in this connection, yet unfortunately there is still a large proportion of growers that have not so far accepted these facts as to make them the basis of their practice. In our own State, and we are by no means alone, there is no crop in the list where so large a proportion of the farmers fail in their farm practice to meet the requirements involved as with this universal crop. Go across the country in summer when the crop is growing, and but few fields are seen where the work anywhere near comes up to the needs and requirements of the crop. The result is, of course, a light yield at the harvest. This need not be so. As a rule those who grow potatoes for the early market are successful in securing bountiful crops. In Maine, which may be called the potato growing state of New England, the methods in use have produced heavy crops. The Maine Farmer discusses some of the leading requirements as follows:

The first requisite to successful potato crops, barring plentiful supply of plant food in the soil which necessarily goes with all cropping, is a deep, mellow seed bed. A full yield of potatoes cannot, and therefore never is, realized where this condition cannot or is not first secured. Potatoes must have a mellow soil to make their growth in and that soil must be stirred deep in order for them to find the conditions necessary to a full crop. Herein is the one great reason of the dearth of acreable yield on so many farms. The soil is not stirred and mellowed deep enough to meet the requirements of the growing plants and tubers. The common practice of planting potatoes on sod furrows is not favorable for large yields. As a rule the fall crops are not grown on such lands. In ordinary practice there is not depth enough of mellowed soil on sod furrows for best results.

Land that has been under cultivation, what the farmers term "old ground," is better for growing potatoes than is the sod furrows. In this case the full furrow is disintegrated and mellowed. Such lands properly fertilized and thoroughly pulverized will give the largest yields, and are at the same time more easily fitted in readiness for the crop.

Clean culture is another necessity. Full crops of potatoes are not and cannot be realized with the field choked with growing weeds. Growing potatoes, especially at the time of the formation of the tubers, call for a large amount of water. With a rank growth of succulent weeds filling the soil and drawing on its moisture it is impossible for the potatoes to make a full crop. It never is done under such conditions. Here again is an advantage from the "old ground" land for the crop. Clean culture is much easier to carry out on such land.

Level or hill culture is one of the questions that has been under test by many experimenters. At this time the pros and cons are pretty well understood. If the field given to the crop is a warm, naturally drained soil, and is worked deep and thoroughly, the level culture will be quite as reliable as the hillling. But in this case the potatoes must be planted well down into the soil. It takes depth of soil for a full hill of potatoes to nest in and have needed room. If this necessity is met in level culture it can only be done by going down into the soil.

On the contrary, if the field has a cold subsoil, inclined to be moist, or if the potatoes are to grow on sod furrows, where deep disintegration is impracticable, then it will be found better to plant the seed nearer the surface and depend in a measure on hillling to make up the mellow nidus for the growing tubers.

With these simple, yet imperative conditions fully met in potato culture, there is no difficulty but large yields to the acre will be realized. Crops of three and four hundred bushels to the acre are grown, and they are not accidents. The reason such crops are not general is that the conditions above referred to are not fully met.

New Cattle Bill in Connecticut.

The bill just brought before the Connecticut Legislature deals with the tuberculosis question wholly on the basis of physical examination and tuberculosis is not mentioned at all. A single commissioner is appointed to inspect cattle brought from other states, and other cattle upon request of owners, or cases of disease reported by selectmen of the various towns. Only physical examination is to be used. Full payment is provided for condemned cattle, but a cow whose physical condition indicates that it is of no real value, is not to be paid for at all.

No provision is made for animal inspection of any kind, except that selectmen are instructed to report to the Commissioner all cases of contagious disease.

Horticultural Hints.

Grapes can be grown almost everywhere, and every farm, garden and village lot should have its vines. Perfection requires high, well drained, strong soil, well fed. Let the trellises run north and south, and be open to the sun. Currents and gooseberries can be grown between the rows if land is scarce.

It located where cheap labor can be obtained, the cherry tree is profitable. One tree may bring from \$20 to \$30. Young trees do not bear heavily but they begin early. The soil must be heavy and dry, for too much wet will cause unfruitfulness, and sandy soil can not support a sufficient amount of potash.

In our "fruit years" the product is so enormous that the tree is often overtaxed to sustain it, and time is required to recuperate. The failure to bloom the next spring should be easily understood. Let us act the part of wisdom, and thin the fruit one-half; the remaining half will be worth more than the whole, with a better chance for next year.

The orchard becomes useless not so much from old age as from neglect. Trees may be healthy and productive at 25 or 30 years of age. They will bear every year if there be heavy manuring.

As they grow older they need heavier manuring and mulching to keep up the requisite vitality.

If the owner feels that he must use the young orchard for some productive crop, it should be a hard crop, which needs clean cultivation. Corn answers well, the partial shade being of some advantage. Pear trees will not stand forcing, and should have no manure, as blight sets in when they grow too rapidly.

If the grape vines were not properly pruned in the fall, do it now before the buds start. Cut away all superfluous wood, get the vine down to a shape and size which will enable you to handle it, and remember that by not allowing it to overbear you will get the finest product.

If newly planted vines do not start growing at the proper time, the application of hot water is a valuable remedy. Warm the soil thus artificially, and the sap will start flowing. Pour a bucket of hot water into holes a few inches away from the tree and cover quickly. Look for results in a day or two. Keep on watering until it rains.—Ind. Farmer.

Opinions on Wood Ashes.

"Hardwood ashes are worth \$20 per ton, figuring the value of the ingredients at wholesale prices."—Prof. R. C. Kedzie.

These conditions are: 1. That the trees have been taken up at the right time and well cared for so that they have grown little or none. 2. That each tree is given, in planting, three or four gallons of water. The water is to be applied when all the roots are covered with soil; then immediately as the water sinks away, more fine earth is to be thrown on and repeated pressure with the foot given. This makes everything solid—one of the essentials of good planting—and prevents any unfilled spaces being left among the roots. The work is then finished by throwing on more fine soil, leaving the surface perfectly mellow. 3. A mulch of old straw or other loose material is to be spread over the surface around the tree. It should be eight or ten inches in depth, and extend for two or three feet on each side of the tree. This much retains the moisture, doing no injury if the season is wet, and saving the life of the tree if (as often happens) a mid-summer drought occurs.

The carbonate of lime in wood ashes is worth five times as much as stone lime, being much more soluble and easily assimilated by plants. Ashes correct sourness in the soil, rendering sandy soils more capable of retaining fertilizers, and making clay soils less stiff and more easily worked. They drive away insects, and are indispensable for all crops requiring potash."—Prof. S. S. Sharpless.

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Gasoline for Scale Insects.

Gasoline is the latest remedy for insects. It is applied with a brush. Take any convenient dish or pot and fill two-thirds with water and the balance with gasoline. The water will retard evaporation and assist in spreading the gasoline to every infected portion when applied. Most kinds of scale are killed effectively with one application.

We have not tried the plan but give it for what it is worth. A remedy that would readily kill scales and tree lice without harm to the foliage would be a prize indeed.

Fruit Growers Independent.

Pumpkins, in the opinion of Secretary B. W. McKeen of Maine, will be found to be of considerable value for fall feeding, but as they contain so large a per cent of water, too much dependence must not be placed on them. We have fed them in quite large quantities and believe them to be of sufficient value to be of use to them. They have no fears of being out of work; and if a friend comes to see them they can stop awhile and visit without being docked or threatened with a discharge. If a member of the family is sick, they can minister to that one without having to render an account to an employer or his servant.

—M. Crawford, Milleburg, O.

Bees must always be bartered; to sell them is considered most unlucky. A bushel of corn or a small pig is held to be a fair equivalent for a swarm. Bartered bees are happy, but to be "guilty" of selling them is a grievous omen, indeed, than which nothing can be more dreadful."

Will Last a Lifetime.

There are two important points about a LITTLE GIANT cream separator which cannot be found about any separators except those made by us. This separator will last a lifetime and it will deliver the best quality of cream, free from froth and in good condition for ice-cream making or butter making. P. M. SHARPLES, West Chester, Pa.; Elgin, Ill.; Rutland, Vt.

CLIMAX PLANT FOOD.

10 lb. bag, 50 cents, enough for 1000 sq. feet of land.
25 lb. bag, \$1.25, enough for 2500 sq. feet of land.
50 lb. bag, \$2.50, enough for 5000 sq. feet of land.

American Fertilizer Co.
153 Milk St, Boston, Mass.**HAY FOR COWS**
AT \$6 PER TON

Would be very cheap, but I have some Feed at \$6 per ton that is as rich as hay. You must feed a little hay, but you will save money by feeding your bulk, or number of pounds, with my Feed at \$6 PER TON. Cannot send a sample by mail, but will send a bag of 17 tons for \$100, cash with order, and will pay the freight to most ports in New England. Better be quick as they grow older they need heavier manuring and mulching to keep up the requisite vitality.

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If newly planted vines do not start growing at the proper time, the application of hot water is a valuable remedy. Warm the soil thus artificially, and the sap will start flowing. Pour a bucket of hot water into holes a few inches away from the tree and cover quickly. Look for results in a day or two. Keep on watering until it rains.—Ind. Farmer.

C. A. PARSONS,
154 Commercial St., Boston, Mass.**RELIABLE SEEDS,**
Bulbs, Plants, etc.

Catalogue Free to All.

R. & J. FARQUHAR & CO.,
16 & 19 South Market St., Boston.**Late Tree Planting.**

Every spring there are persons who defer planting because they think it too late when past the middle of April. With careless planting—such as we urge our friends to avoid—this may be true; but it is an error when proper conditions are understood and fulfilled.

These conditions are: 1. That the trees have been taken up at the right time and well cared for so that they have grown little or none. 2. That each tree is given, in planting, three or four gallons of water. The water is to be applied when all the roots are covered with soil; then immediately as the water sinks away, more fine earth is to be thrown on and repeated pressure with the foot given. This makes everything solid—one of the essentials of good planting—and prevents any unfilled spaces being left among the roots. The work is then finished by throwing on more fine soil, leaving the surface perfectly mellow. 3. A mulch of old straw or other loose material is to be spread over the surface around the tree. It should be eight or ten inches in depth, and extend for two or three feet on each side of the tree. This much retains the moisture, doing no injury if the season is wet, and saving the life of the tree if (as often happens) a mid-summer drought occurs.

It is the lack of sufficient moisture that causes the loss of so many trees the first season after planting, while the tree has only an imperfect connection with the earth.

Of course a good, wide hole—not less than three feet wide—is to be dug for the tree, and fine soil used in planting, as is the rule in good planting at any time. And the top is to be pruned severely to restore the balance between top and root.

There is nothing haphazard about this; it has been tried here time after time some seasons as late as the middle of May and with entire success. And by not postponing, a year's growth is saved, which is well worth considering.—National Farmer.

Fruit Growers Independent.

Nearly all fruit growers are their own employers. They are at liberty to use their best judgment as to what they shall plant, and how they shall grow it. If they make themselves proficient they get the profit of it. They have no fears of being out of work; and if a friend comes to see them they can stop awhile and visit without being docked or threatened with a discharge.

If a member of the family is sick, they can minister to that one without having to render an account to an employer or his servant.

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Caring for Freshly Planted Trees.

I have thought a few hints on the care of trees freshly set out would be of service to many readers, writes the eminent horticulturist, Joseph Meahan, in exchange. Even those who do know what to do, sometimes overlook it at the right time, and a hint to them will be opportune. Preparation of the ground, by seeing that it is made good, is supposed to have been done already; but even if it has, a good coating of manure around each tree, to remain there all summer and all next winter, too, for that matter, is an excellent thing to do. It benefits in two ways, by furnishing the food carried down by rains and by keeping the soil cool and moist in summer and free from severe freezing in winter, both of which are greatly to the advantage of the tree. A little pruning of the trees should have been done when they were planted, both to compensate for the loss of roots and to form a shapely tree. If not already done, it is not too late now. But this may be said about it: If the trees are making a good growth it shows that pruning is not required to assist the roots, and all that is needed, if anything, is to cut a little more.

I have seen many hundred trees lost through not staking them for the first year or two. But every tree does not need it. One must judge for himself whether or not his trees need it. Some that are furnished by nurserymen are trimmed up tall, and when the head leaves out it becomes too heavy for the stem. Such a tree will surely blow over out of plumb. Even if it does not blow out of line, it is injurious to a tree to be blown about, as the swaying causes the breaking of the fibrous roots. Therefore a stake is almost a necessity; and where gales have full sweep it will be found profitable to use them. Then there should be some provision made to protect them from animals. Large numbers of trees disappear because this is not done. And even where animals are not permitted near them, guards are useful where carts, plows or harrows come near the trees. And these guards can take the place of supports for the trees. An important matter is to keep the trees well fed. It is most unwise to let grass or any other crop grow close up to the trees. If some crop is to occupy the space between the trees, and there is no reason why it should not if it does not encroach on the food of the trees, care should be taken that for some distance around each tree, as far as it is thought the root extends, no grass, weeds or anything else should grow.

Let the retained portion be kept mulched, then kept loose by cultivation. The borer is a troublesome fellow, especially where there are apples and quinces. This insect has ruined hundreds of orchards, usually boring the trees just below the ground. If undisturbed, the destruction of a tree is soon accomplished.

Many so-called remedies to keep borers out are advocated, but so far I have found an examination of the trees once in June and again in August, the most satisfactory way of all. It can be seen at once if the insect is there, and if it be there, no more time is expended in getting it out than there would be in applying some mixture to keep it away.

I am sure it will pay any one who has set out trees to attend to them for a few years in the way described.

Cheap, Small Silo.

A twenty-five-ton silo to some farmers seems like a small affair, but no doubt there are many keepers of few cows who consider they have no need for a large silo. In this case, say, for ten cows, the editor of the Farmer's Advocate recommends the round stave silo, ten feet in diameter by twenty feet high, which will hold about thirty tons if about full when settled. Its cost should not exceed \$40 and may be built for less, depending upon the price of lumber. If twenty-foot two inch planks can be got they should be used; if not, a mechanic can splice shorter ones. These should be six or eight inches wide, jointed and not bevelled at the edges. The staves should be held in position by half-inch round iron bands reaching either half or all of the circumference of the silo. These should be long threads on the ends, which are run through holes bored in upright hardwood 4x4-inch scantlings, extending the entire height of the silo, standing in even with inside of stave (some put them outside entirely), leaving outside of stave two inches or more according to size of scantling. These bands can be tightened or slackened with nuts as required.

In building, a perfect circle should be struck, using a stake and string. The ground should be spaded out a few inches deep so that the bottom of planks will rest against the outer edge of the trench. The two hardwood scantlings should be permanently set up on opposite sides and two other scantlings set up temporarily on the other opposite sides. Notches should be cut into the temporary scantlings and the ends of the bands should pass through the permanent scantlings. Now set up a plank, beside or in front of the scantling, and brace it from the ground inside. Each plank as set up is toe-nailed to the one beside it and braced. The brace may

consist of a twelve or sixteen foot board set against a stake in the centre. The planks should also be braced from the outside. Another way to hold the planks in position when set up is to drive a wire nail just above the band and bend it down. The planks should be painted on the outside and edges before being set up.

Dosing a Cow.

To operate, pass the left hand over the cow's face, insert the finger under the dental pad, behind the point where the lower incisors can be closed upon it, elevate the head, and thrust the nose of the bottle into the mouth, taking the precaution to allow its contents to flow out evenly, but not more rapidly than the animal can swallow them. On the first sign of coughing release the animal.

When assistance is necessary, the assistant should hold the cow by standing behind the principal, who gives the drink, and grasping a horn firmly in each hand, giving the nose an upward cast. The less restraint the less liability to accident. There is no harm in grasping the nostrils with the thumb and fingers, and in the case of rough animals it is necessary, but it causes a certain amount of pain, and this should always be avoided where practicable. The ultimate benefit of the animal and self-preservation alone justify its infliction.

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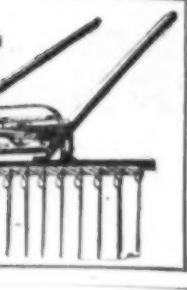
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It will not
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White Lead Tin
Chamfered. Pamphlet giving
samples of colors from
current designs painted in
their application to the
New York.



NE ENGINE
in two min-
utes, steam, smoke, dirt,
and paint free.
Esquire Co.,
Boston, Mass.

RMS
and Milton
to \$15,000.

near
Electric Lines.

shire St., Boston,
NOTICES.

Massachusetts.

COURT
other persons in-
SARAH A. W. PHIFERS,
County, deceased.

Baldur, executor of the
estate, may be ad-
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Court for the payment of lega-
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Administrator.

POULTRY.

Plucking Poultry.

For home use scalding will do no harm, although the process spoils its appearance for the market. The Australian method possesses the advantages of being rapid and easy: As soon as the birds are dead, plunge each in turn into a pail of boiling water, into which a pint and a half of cold water has been thrown (the object is just to scald them), taking care that the water reaches every part of the body. One minute's soaking is generally sufficient; if kept in too long the skin is apt to discolor, and it is not enough the feathers will not easily draw. Every feather can now be stripped off in the easiest possible manner; in fact, they can be almost brushed off. The skin never tears, and the insects that infest all chickens will have disappeared. When clear, pump on the birds to rinse off the wet feathers that still adhere, wipe tenderly with a soft cloth, and hang up to dry with a cloth fastened loosely round to keep them from the air and preserve them white. By this means all the stumps are perfectly removed. It may be as well to remark that ducks cannot be treated in the same manner, as oil in the feathers prevents the water from penetrating.

HAWKS.

Last season we had some experience with hawks, writes A. D. Olin in an exchange. We first tried the shot gun as a remedy. Perhaps preventive would be a better term to use, as there is no help for a young chick when once in the claws of a hawk. The shot gun is a good preventive when applied at the right time, but our hawks were either too shy or we were not shy enough, for in spite of our watchfulness they would take off two or three every day or two. These few were usually of the earliest hatched broods. Fearing you may think us slow or poor marksmen, I will add that the location of our coops was the best that could be had for loss by hawks, as it was near the edge of a grove. The coops being under apple trees, you see the hawk could get directly above his prey before man or chick was aware of his presence.

Our next plan was to fasten the dog near the coops, not expecting him to catch the hawks, but hoping he might answer as a scarecrow, which he did not.

Our third and last plan proved a success. This was a hawk-proof coop, which was made as follows: We cut some old five-inch fence boards into sixteen lengths. Twelve of these pieces made the square frame or pen fifteen inches high. Over this frame we fastened wire meshing securely. Over one corner we placed two wide boards to serve as a protection for hen and chickens at night and in time of storm.

After the hawks had a few trials at clawing wire meshing they gave it up. In a short time we could raise one side of these coops, allowing the young chicks unlimited freedom, as the hawks by this time had sought other fields. The chicks did well in these coops and it was considered a perfection coop for the hen. Never in our experience did hens lay so soon after hatching when with the chicks as last season.

It may not have been the coop, but as we fed them the same as in past seasons, we had reason to think that the freedom allowed the hen in these coops made the difference.

BEST LAYERS.

Although many farmers are ready to assert that their fowls don't pay, yet they in the same breath go on to say there's nothing like our mongrel breed for laying and table; in fact, as an all-round fowl. Is not this a little inconsistent? I admit that a cross-bred fowl is equal and, in some respects, better than pure-breds, but a mongrel is not a cross-bred fowl in the proper sense of the word. A mongrel is a mixture of many breeds, a haphazard nondescript fowl. A cross-bred fowl is the result of a first cross between two pure breeds, each possessing some distinctive merit. The result in the former case is deterioration, in the latter increased size, prolificacy, and profitlessness. Now the first point of importance in profitable egg production is to keep non-sitting breeds. A lot of broody hens beyond what are required are an abominable nuisance, as well as a dead loss to a farmer. At least two-thirds of his stock of fowl should be non-sitters. This I consider indispensable to success. The experience of thirty years has taught me that the most prolific non-sitting, egg-laying breeds are black Minorcas, blue Andalusians, white Leghorns, and black Hamburgs. Let me tell you that no mongrel fowl can compete with them as egg-layers.—K. B. D.

Cattle Medicines.

At the Agricultural Show to be held next October at Vienna, the novelty will be witnessed of a display of "Veterinary Medicaments." Figaro, in the play, confessed that in his several attempts to make a livelihood he became one an assistant in an apothecary's shop, and often sold to people cattle medicines instead of what the physician prescribed. Fewer deaths he asserted resulted by the change.

APIARY.

Some "Dont's" for Honey-Buyers.

Don't buy honey that has stood in the open air, especially in a damp climate. The cappings of comb honey are very porous and affected by all strong smelling and damp surroundings; consequently do not use honey that is kept near tobacco, salt or smoked fish or meats, candles, etc.

Don't buy honey in which any comb is immersed, for pure extracted honey does not need comb in it to deceive the eye, for it appeals to the palate as well as the eye.

Don't use strained honey, as it is strained from the comb in which dead bees, larvae, pupae, the bee-moth's larvae, and even worse, are present.

Don't think that honey is expensive, as one quart of honey is equal to five or six pounds of butter in lasting and food results.

Don't forget that cheap syrups (and some expensive ones) bring you two welcome visitors—first the doctor, next the undertaker.

Don't buy honey without the label of some apiculturist, producer, or reliable firm.

Don't stay without honey when you can get a pure, ripened and wholesome article at a fair price.

Don't leave your extracted or comb honey open; cover it.—Beekeepers' Review.

BEST BREED OF BEES.

Since bee-keeping is so rapidly extending, and honey farming proving so profitable for cottars and small farmers, those interested in the subject, and selecting Belgium for their annual holiday, would do well to visit Brussels between the 4th and 12th of September next, when a most interesting "Agricultural Exhibition" will be in full swing, and the question of the best breed of bees, home or foreign, discussed. The subject of crossing races of bees will also be treated.

Advice About Strawberries.

1. Strawberries do well on almost any well drained soil which is free from frost, reasonably fertile and not infested with white grubs.

2. There is little danger of making the soil too rich, but there is a possibility of injuring the plants with commercial fertilizers, if placed too closely about the roots, and with coarse manure.

3. Commercial fertilizers seem to have no effect on white grubs, nor does manure, but the latter stimulates the plants, so as to repair the damage.

4. The best fertilizers are well-rotted manure, bone meal and wood ashes.

5. The best method of preparing the soil is to plow in the fall, mulch with manure, and fit the ground in the spring with cultivator and harrow.

6. The best time to set strawberry plants is in early spring. When plants are to be set in the fall they should be especially grown for the purpose, either in frames or in pots.

7. For matted rows the plants should be set eighteen inches by four feet apart, and for hills one foot by three.

8. In hill culture the runners are all removed, and for the best results in matted rows a part should be cut off, or some of the plants dug out.

9. Generally, it is better to keep a bed only one season, but if kept longer the best treatment is burning soon after fruiting.

10. Winter protection should be given by mulching, and the best material is swamp hay.—Ohio Experiment Station Report.

Barley.

Barley is a very widely distributed grain, it was formerly very much used for food. In Europe it now ranks next when in importance. The varieties most cultivated in this country are the two-rowed and six-rowed. The former will thrive on land less rich than the latter and is a few days later in maturing. Barley thrives best in a warm soil, which should be quite rich, but less so than for wheat. It may follow, in rotation, corn, potatoes, or other hard crops.

It possesses one valuable characteristic, in that it will fill, even after the straw has become lodged, which is not the case with oats. It is an excellent crop for late sowing, as we know from experience and from having seen it standing green and fresh in Northern Penobscot and Aroostook counties even after the ground was frozen. If a few ears are sown with it the food value of the mixture will be increased. From two to three bushels of seed are sown per acre, according to the condition of the land.—Secretary B. W. McKeen, Augusta, Me.

Fire-Blight.

Fire-blight occurs to some extent wherever pears are cultivated. It is a bacterial disease, and there is no absolute remedy for it. A tree that is once attacked is almost sure to be destroyed by the disease in time. Though this is not always the case when the diseased wood is promptly cut away. The limb or branch should be cut some distance below any sign of blanching. Still the disease frequently progresses to a fatal termination notwithstanding all efforts to check it by pruning.

"Alpha--Baby" CREAM SEPARATORS.



\$50. TO
\$225.

De Laval "Alpha-Baby" Cream Separators.

THE DE LAVAL SEPARATOR CO., NEW YORK.

Gentlemen:—Has the house shipped to Works?

W. H. HART, President.

Dear Sirs:—We are mainly depending on gravity.

Yours truly,

J. W. HART, President.

CLEMSON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE
Clemson, S. C., April 23, 1897.

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BOSTON, MAY 22, 1897.

Persons desiring a change in the address of their paper must state where the paper has been sent as well as the new direction.

MANNERS ARE MONEY.

LESS ple and more fruit.

BE YOUR OWN TIMEKEEPER.

MODERATE LABOR FAVORS HEALTH.

SPRAY. Better be safe than sorry.

MAKE every foot of the farm pay its own taxes.

HE who makes no mistakes, makes no successes.

A GOOD FARM MANAGER is known by his rainy weather work.

LAZINESS, liquor and tobacco will produce hard times upon any farm.

THE borrowed tool is a long time lent, but seldom and save sorrow.

ANGER upsets good advice. Keep cool if you expect your words to take effect.

A NEIGHBOR who is constantly borrowing is never highly valued as a friend.

AS TO MARRIAGE; old maids often wish they had, while old wives often wish they hadn't.

A FARM WASHROOM out in the barn or woodshed is a great comfort during the heating season.

MORE tons and more bushels from fewer acres, more milk and butter from fewer cows; in this direction profit lies.

HONEST work is useful and makes character. For that reason the industrious person is always worthy of respect.

A DOLLAR saved during youth and put at interest will pay itself back again twice over before old age. Early saved dollars will work for you longest.

NEVER look for wealth without labor. You will be just as likely to find a gold mine by digging in your buck yard as you will to get rich by luck.

ALMOST any man can acquire plenty to provide for old age who will follow the safe old plan of working and saving. Trying to find a shorter way is a common source of failure.

FARMERS' children ought to be the healthiest and handsomest on earth. And so they are when given sensible diet, good moral training, and plenty of open air exercise without overwork.

AFTER all that has been said about the cheap food and garden luxury called asparagus, there are still thousands of farmers who don't grow a spear of it. Not among our readers, it is hoped. At any rate, set out some more this month.

IN 1896 Great Britain imported 1,559,387,000 eggs. The British biddy ought to be ashamed of herself.—Lowell Journal.

IN 1896 Massachusetts imported thirty million dozen of eggs, worth nearly \$5,000,000. Ought not the Bay State hen to feel a little bit ashamed, too?

TROUBLE is likely to result from the San Jose scale, which has been scattered all over the country through infected nursery stock. It has been found in numerous localities in Massachusetts and Connecticut. Fruit growers are likely to suffer large damages before learning how to effectively fight the new pest. Infested trees or branches should be destroyed.

THIS tariff revision business is a nuisance. Why should trade be knocked to pieces every four years or so for the sake of shifting the customs figures back and forth? More than anything else is a political way, this country needs a permanent tariff commission in order to make changes so gradually and carefully that no great disturbance would result.

THIS summer there will probably not be a very generous free distribution of apples among the poor people of Boston, as the crop, it is expected, will be small; but there may be an offering of vegetables instead. The Ten Times One Society is interested in the work and is talking about making it a permanent feature of the summer. Presumably farmers will soon be invited to present the necessary vegetables.

BY A VARIOUS misprint in last week's paper, allusion was made in this column to "members" of the Mass. Cattle Commission instead of to "sex-members" as intended. It should be stated that the present members of the commission never apply the tuberculin test as private veterinarians. The private testing, which has absorbed such a large proportion of the appointment, has been all carried on by private veterinarians, none of them now members of the Commission. The work of the present Commission has been straightforward, so tactful, and so free from any ground for criticism, that the above correction is very cheerfully made.

There is more catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years it was prevalent in the form of disease, and prescribed medical remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment pronounced it incurable. Science has proven catarrh to be a constitutional disease, and, therefore, requires constitutional treatment. This treatment has been effected by J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is the only constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally in doses from ten drops to a teaspoonful. It acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, and costs only hundred dollars for any amount it fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials. Address

F. J. CHENY & CO., Toledo, Ohio.
Sold by all druggists, 75¢.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

The Cuban question has occupied a large share of the attention of Congress the past week. The prompt and favorable response to the President's message in regard to appropriation for relief of American citizens in Cuba, is an indication of the trend of Congressional sympathy. The published opinions of the Senators show a large number in favor of recognizing the belligerency of the insurgents. Some favor more active intervention, while still others see no need for any kind of interference on the part of the United States.

The proposed Government reservoir for irrigation in the Northwest has been the cause of some discussion. Eastern farmers think that too much haste is being shown to bring more land into competition. This sample reservoir basin lies in the heart of the Rocky Mountains, and is ten miles long by two miles wide. Its maximum depth is 150 feet, and the Government engineers estimate that it will hold 20,000,000,000 cubic feet of water. The walls of the basin are perfect, without a break. The bottom is of rock and is impervious to water. The Big and Little Laramie Rivers will be tapped and will take between five and six years to fill the basin. Water can be stored to keep the eastern part of Wyoming and western Nebraska supplied with water during the dry season. The water will be collected in winter and used to flood the Laramie and Platte rivers in summer. A corps of Government engineers are ordered to survey the basin and draw up plans for the feeding ditches. If the project succeeds, the attempt will be made to secure many more reservoirs in the dry sections. Meanwhile, in Kansas, private land owners are independently solving the water problem for themselves. English and New England capitalists who own thousands of acres in the Flint hills region of the state, have put a large force of men and teams at work damming the draws and small streams. Fifty thousand dollars will be expended in thus solving the irrigation problem. Experts claim this reservoir system will store and retain all storm waters, increase the humidity and also the rainfall, prevent hot winds and thus make drought and crop failure impossible.

As the season opens for exploration in the far north, Canada this week sends forth her expedition with the rest. The purpose of the expedition is to determine the period for which Hudson strait is navigable, in order that grain steamers may run through and load wheat for England at Fort Churchill, which will be the terminus of a railway to be built there from Manitoba. There will be an attempt made to learn the fishery possibilities of this vast body of water, of which, at present, little is known. Nets, seines and trawls will be taken along, in the hope that the discovery of great shoals of food fishes may result.

BOSTON'S upper four hundred are talking of the approaching marriage of the richest heiress, Miss Isabelle Perkins, to Lars Andersen, secretary of the United States Legation at Rome. Miss Perkins is one of the richest girls in her own right. Several years ago her grandfather, the late Stephen Weld, left her \$17,000,000. This, with the accumulations, will, it is said, be paid over to her when she is 21 years old, about a year hence. She is the only child of Captain and Mrs. Perkins of Boston, and the latter came into a similar big fortune on the death of her father, Mr. Weld. The wedding occurs in Boston, the middle of June.

An imposing financial scheme for lending money to farmers has been well aired in the newspapers of the past week. The plan is to organize a company partially under government control. The rate of interest on long term loans will be 5.50 per cent, which will wipe out the debt at maturity in the case of seventy-five years loans. The actual interest payment is 4.65 per cent. The company shall have power to issue \$2,000,000 in 3.65 per cent bonds, in denominations as low as \$10. These may be issued to borrowers in lieu of money, and are expected to circulate as freely as money. A reserve fund of \$25,000,000 shall be retained. The plan, as outlined above, was shown to Secretary Gage of the Treasury Department, who said, "It seems to be the dream of some impractical man." The idea will, no doubt, be welcomed eagerly by needy borrowers, who naturally like the notion of money at less than six per cent with no principal to be paid—But the general service of business men is to effect that the necessary capital for such a scheme could not be obtained.

A story of quiet feminine heroism comes from the Southwest. Addie Upson is the name of a young Texas woman who did not lose her wits nor her courage when ordered by masked men to signal a Southern Pacific train to stop, that they might rob the express car. She is a telegraph operator at Lodi, Texas, a little town in the most desolate part of the state. She was alone and unarmed in the station at 2 A. M., when the masked robbers, with rifles in their hands, entered her office. The train arrived before she could act, and the thieves shot at the train hands and stole \$15,000 from the express safe. Texas rangers are now in close pursuit as the result of her warning despatch. Miss Upson gave the alarm to the trainmen and notified operators and authorities all along the line, so that the thieves got only a small part of their intended booty, and will probably be captured.

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Sold by all druggists, 75¢.

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN BOSTON, MASS., SATURDAY, MAY 22, 1897.

A GREAT OCCASION IN OUR Dress Goods Department

Having made extraordinary arrangements with one of Boston's largest and best Dressmaking Concerns, we make this most unusual proposition to all our customers: Each day for one week we will make to order a

DRESS SKIRT FREE OF CHARGE

To every person who buys a five-yard length of any material, either plain or fancy, black or colored, at 50c. a yard or more, with the linings and binding. This will be an actual saving to you of at least \$3.00, as no dressmaker would do equal work for you under \$8.00.

We shall guarantee perfect satisfaction in every respect or refund the money.

Figured and plain Mohair Sicilienne, also storm serges in navy blue and black of the very best English manufacture and warranted fast dye, worth at least 65c., are only

GILCHRIST & CO., 5 to 11 WINTER ST., BOSTON.

The State Roads.

The division of the money for State roads this year has called forth some protest from disappointed towns, but according to the fixed policy of the highway commission, the awards seem mostly consistent. The idea was to apportion the largest amounts in the counties which have the greatest mileage of roads. For this reason the amounts for Worcester is considerably higher than those for the other counties. There are also a number of new pieces of road mapped out in Worcester County. The Fitchburg, Gardner, Phillipston and Westminster sections are for the through highway which will be completed between Boston and North Adams; and the Leicester, Spencer and Warren sections are on the Worcester road. There are also large amounts for the roads from Worcester to West Boylston, covering the district to be so disastrously affected by the Metropolitan Water Board's changes. In Berkshire the new Hancock road is to form an important link in an interstate market road, over the mountains between New Lebanon, N. Y., and Pittsfield.

Norfolk County gets enough to connect some of the sections, already built, and Essex County probably gets another section of the new North Shore highway. Of the entire \$80,000 one quarter will be held to tide over the usual delay in getting the appropriation of the year next following.

Sugar Beet Seed Gone.

The agricultural department at Washington has run out of sugar beet seed, having distributed about 10,000 pounds among farmers in about four-fifths of the states. The seed has been distributed in small packages purely for experimental purposes. The beets grown from the seed will be analyzed, and the saccharine matter determined, to ascertain where beets can be most profitably grown for the production of sugar.

—Kentucky witnessed the spectacle this week of two separate bodies sitting in session in the same hall, and each claiming to be the Senate of Kentucky.

—The body of Lewis Hayward, a resident of Northville, was found suspended from a tree near Elmwood, Sun- day: suicide is probably the solution.

—Gloucester business men and citizens generally are up in arms over the action of the State Highway Commission in refusing to build the third section of highway on Western avenue.

—Information has been received by J. E. Crowell of Milford, N. H., to the effect that he is an heir to a portion of a large estate in England, his share being estimated at about \$800,000.

—Peter O. Farrell, charged with assaulting with intent to murder his fiancee, Miss Hannah Burke, in Springfield last December, has been convicted in the Superior Court and is now awaiting sentence.

—A log boom belonging to A. L. Brooks & Co. broke at Litchfield, a few miles above Nashua, Sunday morning, and 6,000,000 feet of logs are now on their way to the ocean, having arrived at Pawtucket dam in Lowell.

—Set of 12 Portfolios, 16 full page photos each 13 1/2 x 11, 192 pages in all, subject, "Beautiful Paris," edition cost \$100,000, given absolutely free with beautiful case, by Dobbins Soap Mfg. Co., Philadelphia, Pa., to their customers.

—The largest mortgage ever recorded in Essex county was filed for record at the court house there recently. The mortgage was for \$135,000,000, placed on the property of the Reading Railroad Co. of New York, and the Philadelphia & Reading Coal & Iron Co. in favor of the Central Trust Co. of New York.

—The mystery surrounding the disappearance of Charles Henry Cypher of Oakdale is yet far from solution. Three hundred citizens of Worcester, Sterling, West Boylston, Oakdale and Princeton formed themselves into a searching party and scoured the surrounding country, but with no result.

—At the annual convention of the Stateistic party of Massachusetts this week in Lawrence, the following nominations were made for State officers: for governor, Thomas C. Brophy of Boston; for lieutenant governor, Edward A. Buckland of South Hadley Falls; for treasurer, George A. Brown of Lynn.

—The report of Colonel S. N. Mansfield upon the project for the improvement of Merrimac River between Newburyport and Haverhill, authorized by the last river and harbor bill, has been transmitted to Congress. It proposes to dredge a channel between the points named, one hundred and fifty feet wide and seven feet deep.

—News has been received of the drowning of William Perry of North Lincoln, James Francis of Oldtown and Albert Commer of Winn, in Pameandook Lake, just south of the thoroughfare spanning to Androscoggin Lake. These three men with three others were coming out from the drive in a canoe when the canoe was swamped in rough water in the Pameandook. The bodies have been recovered.

Francis was the son of Joe Francis, Maine's most famous guide and hunter.

—A recent article written for a Denver newspaper, Mr. W. F. Kendrick, of the Kendrick Promotion Co., expresses the opinion that mining stocks are likely to advance, the causes for the present depression not being such as to make the low price permanent. He thinks that such securities, as a class, are now cheap in proportion to their dividend-paying capacity.

—The liquor habit is best reached by medical treatment. A guaranteed remedy is advertised in another column.

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—A recent article

MARKETS.

BOSTON LIVE STOCK MARKET

Cattle Rule Steady—Yearling Lambs a Shade Lower—Low Grade Hogs 1-8c Lower—Calf Market Weakening—Milch Cows in Fair Demand and Less Activity in Horse Market.

Reported for Mass. Ploughman, Week ending May 19, 1897.

Amount of Stock at Market.

Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Horses, Veal.

This week, 4,733 6,886 345 26,359 3155

Last week, 4,754 6,140 245 27,035 2949

One year ago, 5,421 8,619 289 27,065 1775

Horses, 866

Cattle, Sheep, Horses, Veal.

1,69 2 New York

N. Hampshire 111 206 1 & Conn.

Vermont 213 2001 9293

Massachusetts 178 185 Canada 213

Total 4,733 9,686 986 29,705 1775

CATTLE AND SHEEP FROM SEVERAL STATES.

Cattle, Sheep, Cattle, Sheep.

Maine 169 2 New York

N. Hampshire 111 206 1 & Conn.

Vermont 213 2001 9293

Massachusetts 178 185 Canada 213

Total 4,733 9,686 986

CATTLE AND SHEEP BY RAILROADS, ETC.

Cattle, Sheep, Cattle, Sheep.

Pittsburg 3924 8 Eastern 183

Lowell 498 163 B. & M.

B. & A. 1070 Foot & boats, 80

Total 4,733 9,686

Values on Northern Cattle, etc.

Beef.—Per hundred pounds on total weight of hide, tallow and meat, \$4.00; fat, \$1.00; skin, \$0.10; second quality, \$4.00-\$4.75; pairs, \$6.00-\$6.50; some of the poorest, bulls and cows, \$1.50-\$2.00.

Working Oxen, \$80-\$130; hand steers, \$50-\$100, or much according to their value for beef.

Cows and Young Calves.—Fair quality, \$20-\$25; extra, \$25-\$30; very nice milch cows, \$30-\$35.

Sheep.—Thin young cattle for farmers: yearlings, two-year-olds, \$12-\$22; three-year-olds, \$20-\$32.

Hides.—Brighton, 6½-7½ lb; country lots, 5½-6½.

Gilt Skins.—\$60-\$110.

Tallow.—Brighton, 3½-4 lb; country lots, 3½-4½.

Pork.—40¢-\$50 each; country lots, 40¢-\$60; Dairy Skins, \$30-\$40.

ARRIVALS AT THE DIFFERENT YARDS.

CATTLE, SHEEP, HOOF VEAL, HORSES.

Watertown, 3994 8500 11,872 2388 866

Brighton 739 1196 14,875 767 90

General Live Stock Notes.

The live stock business of the week consider in a healthy condition, not an excessive number of animals being offered, and sales fairly easy.

The market not particularly firm. There is a weakening of rates on fat hogs, a general decline and fluctuating movement. The demand for dressed hams was on common grades. Cattle could not be called active and butchers expressed very little interest.

At present, West is large extent at the present time. Western lambs could be bought on full as early as last week. Calves were active last week. Milk cows in light supply when compared with some weeks. Horse market steady, and less activity in weeks.

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THE HOUSEHOLD.

THE GRASSHOPPER AND THE ANT.

A grasshopper sat in his plush-covered chair, And extended his feet to the fire; He had slippers of felt, a cap of red silk, And all that one's heart could desire.

And he was just thinking, with satisfied mind, Of his harder's bounteous store, When his brother announced; with a look of disdain, A little black ant at the door.

This little ant's tail was distressing to hear, His cottage was covered with snow, and All the provisions, laid in for a year, Were eaten up and gone long ago.

The grasshopper leaned his chin on his hand, And he thought of that day in the past, When an uncle of hers told an old aunt of his She could dance in the winter blast.

But he gave her some mittens, a hood and shawl, A box filled with everything nice;

As he tenderly helped her down the front steps, He added this precious advice:

"I fear, my dear ant, you work too slow When the summer days are long; Whenever I find things are falling behind, I brace myself up with a song."

"Now, here is a point, just bear it in mind, When you start out again in the spring, You can do more work, in much less time, If you merrily whistle and sing."

—Christian Intelligencer.

A GOOD THOUGHT.

She might have acted better when she went to church that day.

But she couldn't understand the words the preacher man did say;

And mamma said, "Remember, though you cannot understand,

He's telling us about things beautiful and grand."

So you must sit quite still, and think of something good yourself."

She listened with attentive air, the sober little elf.

Next Sabbath, in the high-backed pew, with

sweetly serious air,

She listened to the services, the sermon, and prayer,

And mama praised her girlie, as she stroked the curly head.

"Eh, mama, I wimbered all we do vod advice ou said,"

An' twen' I mon dot wessles, an' was so dwelle dwy,

I wrought of sometwin lovely dood—I fought of apple pie."

—Minnie Leona Upton, in the Household.

A FAMILY OF TWELVE.

The hired man found them while he was mowing the alfalfa field.

There was a sudden "whirr-r" that made him jump, as a poor, frightened mother quail flew off her nest; and there, among the long green stems, lay twelve pretty speckled eggs.

Just then the dinner-horn blew, so he put the twelve eggs into his covered tin-pail, and started briskly toward the mill house; for he was warn and hungry.

As he crossed the treeless fields the sun beat hotly on his old straw hat, and the pail almost grew too warm to hold. But it was lucky that he did not drop it; for inside wonderful things were happening, as the hired man discovered when he reached the veranda and uncovered his pail.

Where twelve pretty brown eggs had lain, were twelve baby-quails, running about among their own egg shells, as lively as crickets, and not much bigger.

"O! O! O!" cried the two little girls, their eyes shining with delight: "let's show them to grandma—quick!" Four little eager hands received the pail, with its scrambling load, and hurried them into the house.

"Poor little tots!" said gentle grandma; "what will become of them?"

"Oh, let's keep them, grandma—do—" pleaded two wistful voices. "We can take care of them."

"But they need a feathered mother, dearies," grandma answered. "Tell the hired man to catch the old hen whose chicks were killed by a weasel last night; perhaps she will adopt them."

So the hen was brought and popped in a coop, clucking and struggling, and running to and fro on her long, awkward legs. She was absurdly big and very clumsy, and for some minutes appeared to have not the slightest intention of adopting the twelve little waifs huddled, cheeping, in a corner.

But even a silly old hen will sometimes make the best of things; so it happened that after a little she settled down, and the poor, cold, baby-quails crowded under her comfortable wings.

"Now they've got a mother," said the little girls.

An hour later, grandma heard a wail from the direction of the chicken-coop, and hurried to see what was the matter.

"She's eating them! Oh, she's eating them!" howled the children. And sure enough, there, in the middle of the coop, stood a choking old hen, with two pitiful little quail-feet protruding from her ugly yellow bill. Grandma rushed valiantly to the rescue, and the ten survivors were carried into the house in an aspron.

For two days they lived in an old basket, wrapped in flannel rags, and then, one morning, Chung, the Chinese cook, appeared with a strange burden.

"Little quail lakkee mamma," he beamed, handing grandma the queer bundle of feathers and string, which proved to be a tightly bound hem-quail.

"Heap nice mamma!" he repeated, when the cords were loosed and the quail nestled down, spreading her wings for the babies to creep under. And the ten little orphans, pressing in among the soft feathers, thought so too.

"Horrid old hen!" said the two little girls, "They've got a real mother now."

"Outlook."

REASONS FOR USING

Walter Baker & Co.'s Breakfast Cocoa.

- Because it is absolutely pure.
- Because it is not made by the so-called Dutch Process in which chemicals are used.
- Because beans of the finest quality are used.
- Because it is made by a method which preserves unimpaired the exquisite natural flavor and odor of the beans.
- Because it is the most economical, costing less than one cent a cup.

Be sure that you get the genuine article made by WALTER BAKER & CO. LTD., DORCHESTER, MASS. ESTABLISHED 1780.

RODNEY'S LEMONADE.

Rodney was a good boy most of the time, but he liked to have his own way, and sometimes this liking made it very hard for him to be as obedient as he should.

One warm day he began coaxing Mama to allow him to make some lemonade.

"No, Rodney," Mama answered, "I have only enough lemon for cook to use, and you know we expect company to come."

Rodney said no more, for he knew when Mama said "no," she meant "no," and teasing was of no use, even if it had been permitted. But the desire for lemonade was very strong, and instead of thinking of something else, which would have been the sensible and right thing to do, he kept thinking how good the lemonade would taste if he only could have some.

A little later Mama went to call on a neighbor. The girls had heard Rodney ask for the lemonade, but they were busily playing now and had forgotten all about it.

Rodney looked as guilty as he felt when he went to the kitchen and looked around. Cook had gone to her room.

"One won't matter," Rodney said to himself, although he didn't believe what he said; he only wanted to believe it. He went to the bag of lemons and very carefully drew one out.

"Quick, now," he said to himself again, and then he jerked out a knife, pulled down the lemon squeezer and diving into a jar. Next he added water and after a hurried stirring put the glass to his lips and took a long, hasty drink.

Then his eyes grew large, his face turned red and ugly! what a mouth he made!

He left the tumbler on the table, too much disgusted to remember to put away the traces of his wrong act, and walked out into the yard.

Very soon May and Carrie, his two sisters, came into the kitchen to ask cook for a ginger snap. There were the tell-tale signs on the table and the half finished glass of lemonade. "It's Rodney's," said May, "and Mama told him he couldn't make any."

The girls looked sober for a moment and then a spirit of mischief took possession of them.

"I wonder where he's gone?" said Carrie. "Let's drink the rest of his lemonade before he comes back."

"All right," answered May, "it'll serve him right."

So Carrie took up the tumbler. She tasted it and set it down. "Try it," she said briefly.

May took a very suspicious sip and set it down hastily.

"Sail!" she exclaimed.

"Carrie responded, and then they both began to laugh.

When Mama came home they told her the joke, and although she looked very sober when she heard of Rodney's disobedience, she could not help smiling a little at the punishment he had brought upon himself.

Of course, the girls teased him unmercifully about his new kind of lemonade and this was hard enough to bear, but when supper Mama passed a piece of lemon pie with a great, thick frosting over the top to all the rest and not a bite to him, that was worse still.

But it taught Rodney a lesson, and now he makes lemonade only with Mama's consent, and then he has cook direct him to the sugar jar.—The Delineator.

The Coral Reefs.

For many years the origin and character of coral reefs have been the subject of keen dispute among men of science.

There are fringing reefs which skirt the coast, like those at Key West; there are barrier reefs, which form in huge masses in deep water several miles from land; and there are atolls—ring-shaped reefs about which little is known and much is disputed.

These latter, ranging from 150 to 1000 feet thick, have been made the subject of investigation at Funafuti, one of the Ellice group north of Fiji.

To this place the English ship "Penguin" carried a party of scientists, equipped with a boring plant. Though these operations encountered many difficulties and failed to determine the development of the atoll, they have made its form clear and brought some interesting facts to light.

The average depth of the ocean bed from ten to fifteen miles from the island is 2000 fathoms. Were the water suddenly to disappear, a huge table-mountain 12,000 feet high would be disclosed, thirty miles long and twenty-eight wide at the base.

At first the slope is gentle, then steep, reaching an angle of thirty degrees at a height of 9500 feet. This continues for 1500 feet. Above that, this Alp of the ocean is a precipitous scarp of 700 feet. Thence the ground slopes gradually to a large, crater-like basin.

Now they've got a mother," said the little girls.

An hour later, grandma heard a wail from the direction of the chicken-coop, and hurried to see what was the matter.

"She's eating them! Oh, she's eating them!" howled the children. And sure enough, there, in the middle of the coop, stood a choking old hen, with two pitiful little quail-feet protruding from her ugly yellow bill. Grandma rushed valiantly to the rescue, and the ten survivors were carried into the house in an aspron.

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"Outlook."

THE HOME CORNER.

FREE PATTERN.

By special arrangement with the BAZAR GLOVE-PITTING PATTERN CO., we are able to supply our readers with the *Bazar Glove Patterns* at very low cost. It is acknowledged by every one that these patterns are the simplest, neatest, and most reliable patterns published. Full directions accompany each pattern, and our lady readers have been invariably pleased with the past. The couplet below accompanys each order, otherwise the pattern will cost the full price.

MASS. PLOUGHMAN COUPON.

Cut this out, fill in your name, address, number and size of pattern required, and mail it to THE HOME CORNER, MASS. PLOUGHMAN, BOSTON, MASS.

Name _____

Address _____

No. of Pattern _____

Size _____

Enclose ten cents to pay expenses.

The proper way, so say those experienced in the matter, is to buy for the first coat ordinary indoor paint of the same shade as the enamel. After the furniture has been thoroughly washed and sanded, dusted off and dried, the first coat is put on carefully. At best two brushes are required—one three-inch flat brush for the larger surface and a small brush for intricate places.

In twenty-four hours, when the coat is thoroughly dry, it is often advisable to go over it lightly with a fine sand paper. This removes any chance hair left by the brush, and smooths down any little lumps of paint which may have hardened from the first coat.

Before beginning the second coat the brushes should be thoroughly cleaned. If the paint at any time is found to be too stiff, the pot may be set in hot water. The second coat should be added quickly with a fine brush, and the piece of furniture left to dry in a place where there is no dust.

Before beginning the second coat the brushes should be thoroughly cleaned. If the paint at any time is found to be too stiff, the pot may be set in hot water. The second coat should be added quickly with a fine brush, and the piece of furniture left to dry in a place where there is no dust.

Whatever will save a few steps, whatever will spare an aching back, whatever will lighten the labor of housework, cannot be dispensed with, possibly, especially in the kitchen. It is no easy task to move the heavy furniture in some kitchens. Neat, light utensils and furniture are no more expensive than the heavy ones, and are just as strong. When cooking a meal, a woman will stow back and forth from pantry to stove a dozen times to get salt or spices for what she is preparing. How much better would it not be to have a spice box on a small shelf near the stove, or hung on a nail within easy reach. Every one admires an immaculate floor, yet none but the one who scrubbed it realizes what it costs—the weariness, the hard work, and the aching knees. A couple of gallons of dark paint or some stain, or enough oilcloth to cover the floor would, in the long run, be far the cheapest.

It is the systematic housekeeper who has time to read, to play with her children, and to do pretty fancy work, not the one who sleeps until the last minute in the morning, gets breakfast in a rush, and then sits down to read a fascinating novel before the dishes are washed. Such a woman is always grumbling about the amount of work she has to do, and making it unpleasant for both husband and children.

There is yet another kind of housekeeper who would have more time if she was not eternally "picking up and setting to rights." What matters it if Marion left the sofa pillow a little out of place, or if the table is strewn with the latest magazines, where John left them? What matters it if the big easy-chair is pulled up to the blazing fire-place, where it looks so inviting? Sure primness is not artistic, and there is a vast difference between disorder and such arrangement which is most comfortable. A pleasant home is made by the people in it, and that with which they surround themselves. Pretty ornaments and books make the home attractive, even if they do make a little more work.

Another pretty style is a plain round skirt with hem and tucks, and a blouse waist or half-fitting sacque. Some attention should be given to the materials of which such dresses are composed. There is so much difference in the ease with which various fabrics may be laundered that this is a matter which is deserving of some consideration. For summer wear, gingham or plain print makes a very desirable and inexpensive dress. If the cost of the garment is not a specially important item, dresses of linen will be found cooler and much more comfortable than those of any other material. There is a heavy, firm, rather dark-brown linen that makes the most admirable house-dresses imaginable. A dress that was particularly admired was recently made of this goods. A deep hem around the bottom of the skirt had a heading in vine pattern done in etching stitch with red marking cotton. The skirt was made of two breadths of the linen, and was plainly gathered to the belt. The waist was in sailor fashion with very wide turn-over collar, cuffs and inner vest also finished with the vine pattern. Small buttons of red ivory closed the front. The dress required but three yards and a half of material to make, and cost, aside from the work, but a trifle over three dollars.

Cotton cheviots make admirable dresses for domestic wear. Another material especially durable and useful is blue denim. This material makes up in much more stylish fashion than one would imagine. Neatly made and trimmed with Swiss edging at the sleeves and collar, this material will be eminently satisfactory for hard usage. It is the best economy to make dresses specially for domestic wear.

Another material especially durable and useful is blue denim. This material makes up in much more stylish fashion than one would imagine. Neatly made and trimmed with Swiss edging at the sleeves and collar, this material will be eminently satisfactory for hard usage.

The failures in the matter of home painting are not a necessity, but rather the result of misapplication and ignorance as to the proper paints and the manner of their use. There are so many kinds of paints for various uses that it almost requires an expert to apply the right paint in the right place at the right time. There are furniture paints, and bathtubs paints, and enamels and calcimines in various degrees, says an ex-

change.

An important factor, too, and one often lost sight of, is the preparation of the article to be treated to a coat of paint. For instance, suppose an old bedroom suit is to be repainted. A color should be selected not diametrically opposed to its original color. White enamel over an old walnut suit, while it may be possible, is rather difficult. A color chosen in cherry, dark blue or some of the darker shades will be easier to handle.



THE GRANGE.

CHILDREN'S DAY.

In order to increase the interest in rural life among the children of the state, the New Hampshire grange has set apart a "Children's Day," the first observation of which will occur Saturday, June 12.

The Massachusetts Grange Fair offers a list of special premiums to be conferred by members of the Order who are residents of that state.

Weather and Crops.
FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 17.

MAINE.

Vitality, 2.13, has been bred to Baron Rogers, 2.10 3-4.

Our horse correspondent recently viewed Patronage, the sire of the world's champion trotter, Aliz. 2.08 3-4. He is a very handsome dark-bay horse, and has a remarkably intelligent look. He was driven by his owner, Mr. Perce, who is also the owner of the famous little race mare, Alcidala.

Last Saturday being the working-out day of most of the trainers at Readville, some good stepping was seen. The track was in good condition, though not fast. Among the horses particularly noticed was Kittie Van 2.18 14. She was in good trim, and after some brushing stepped some fast miles for so young a filly.

Madeline 2.23 1-4, one of the few remaining daughters of Rydylk's Hambletonian, brought only \$120 at the recent sale in New York. She is twenty-two years old, and out of the dam of Robert McGregor. In 1890 William Simpson paid \$8,000 for her. She is the dam of Metamora 2.19 3-4, and is believed to be in foal to Hummer.

The nose-bag is a grand institution for horses that are, from the nature of their work, kept from their stables for many hours at a time, and it should always be carried. Some crank has recently raised an objection to it on the ground of its interference with respiration; but it is without doubt an important factor in the reduction of the number of cases of colic, that most people in a position to speak with authority agree has taken place during recent years.

SCRATCHES.

Scratches are very common in horses during the winter and spring. Horses with a coarse, lymphatic constitution have a natural tendency or predisposition to the disease. The more common exciting causes are, close, damp or filthy stables; standing or working in the manger or stall of the stable or yard; driving in the mud, especially when freezing, and then allowing the mud to remain on the legs after the horse has gone to the stable; standing in cold drafts of air; washing the legs with caustic soaps or other irritants, and overfeeding on grain or feeding unwholesome fodder of any kind, which tends to derange the urinary system. In treatment, the first step is to avoid, as far as possible, the causes that develop or aggravate the disease. The Rural New Yorker advises by way of treatment that whenever the horse is used in the wet or mud, the legs should be rubbed dry as soon as placed in the stable. Do not wash the legs when dry, but clean them by brushing or dry rubbing. In fact, avoid wetting them whenever possible. Daily exercise is very desirable.

If the horse is in good condition, give one ounce each best aloes and ginger in hall or drench to open the bowels. Follow with a laxative diet, to consist largely of bran mashes, scalded oats, boiled flax seed or oil meal or green food sufficient to keep the bowels moving freely. Repeat the dose of aloes in a week if not freely purged by the first. If the horse is weak or debilitated, the aloes should be omitted, and the bowels controlled by a laxative, but nutritious diet. Pint doses of raw linseed oil might be given to advantage. In obstinate cases of this kind, one of the best remedies is the iodide of potassium. The iodide should be given in dram doses in the feed or drinking water twice daily, and continued for ten days to two weeks; then omit for a week and repeat as before, if necessary. Give the horse a pinch of salt daily, or preferably keep salt before the horse in a small box or a compartment of the feed trough, where he can eat it at his pleasure. Locally, the benzoated oxide of zinc ointment is one of the best applications for the cracked heels. First dry the legs if wet, and then rub the ointment well in night and morning, breaking off and removing the crusts with the hand, as fast as softened with the ointment. For the ordinary mild or chronic cases of scratches, a laxative diet followed by a little extra care of the legs and the use of the ointment, is the only treatment required.

Nothing equal to GERMAN FEAT MOSE for horse bedding. Healthy and economical and widely used. C. B. Barrett, importer, 45 No. Market street.

C. A. PARSONS' cheap substitute for hay is well liked by milk farmers and dairymen. Samples of 300 pounds are sold for \$1. It should not be fed alone, but rather used to lengthen out the supply of hay.



THE WORLD OVER.

The Uruguayan revolution has ended in Government victory.

Russian influence has compelled Turkey to cease hostilities for the present in Greece.

Japan threatens to retaliate on our taxing of her handkerchiefs by restricting United States petroleum.

Advises from Rio Janeiro, Brazil, are that the new extradition treaty with the United States has been signed.

At the International Arts Exposition at Dresden the American painters, by universal consent, lead all other countries.

Over ninety earthquake shocks have occurred in South Australia during the past week, and people are living in tents for safety.

Count Von Frankenberg recently made a violent attack upon American oleomargarine and its makers in the Prussian Diet.

Advices from Montevideo, Uruguay, are that the insurgents have again defeated the Federal troops under General Muzquiz, capturing the guns.

Failures are reported at Buenos Ayres daily. The commercial situation is an extremely difficult one. Locusts are ravaging the interior provinces.

Prince Bismarck lost twenty pounds in weight during his last illness, but he reviewed a torchlight procession in the open air during the week, though snow was falling.

The Porte's official reply to the note of the Powers declines to agree to an armistice until the following conditions are accepted: The annexation of Thessaly, an indemnity of £10,000,000 (Turkish) and the abolition of the capitulation.

Minister Hanotaux, of France, has written to the retiring United States Ambassador, Eustis, thanking him and the United States Embassy for the expression of sympathy with the families of the victims of the Paris Charity Bazaar disaster.

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